

Water System Acquisition and Rehabilitation Program

Administered By:

Department of Health, Office of Drinking Water and Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development, Public Works Board

Program Purpose: The Water System Acquisition and Rehabilitation Program assists municipal water systems in acquiring and rehabilitating water systems that have water quality problems or deteriorated infrastructure.

Mission Statement: The mission of the program is to finance the transfer of ownership and rehabilitation of failing drinking water systems to municipal water systems.

Year Established: 2003

Enabling State Statutes:
RCW 70.119A.190 - Water System Acquisition & Rehabilitation Grant Program Created.

Administrative Rules:
No rules yet.

Proportion of Grants and Loans, 1999-2008:
100% Grants

Legislative Intent: C 26 L 2003, Section 130 (Capital Budget)

The State Building Construction Account appropriation is provided solely to provide assistance to counties, cities, and special purpose districts to identify, acquire, and rehabilitate public water systems that have water quality problems or have been allowed to deteriorate to a point where public health is an issue.

General Information

Recent Biennial Budgets	1999-01	2001-03	2003-05	2005-07	2007-09
New Appropriation for Administration			0	0	
New Appropriation for Loans/Grants			\$4,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,750,000
Expenditure for Administration			See note below	See note below	See note below
Funds Awarded for Grants/Loans*			\$3,991,000	\$2,005,784	\$2,750,000

Notes:

- Neither agency received funding to administer this program nor are they currently using other resources to cover administrative expenses. Administrative expenditures are being analyzed as part of legislatively mandated studies as required by RCW 70.119A.190.
- The figures listed in the table above are for funds that were awarded by the program.

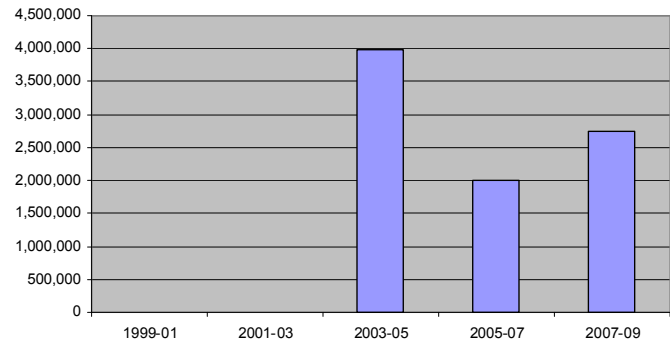
General Information

FTEs for the Program in 2005-07:
0 for Health; 0 for Public Works Board

Fund Account(s):
057-1 – State Building Construction Account

Fund Sources:
057-1 – State Building Construction Account

Funds Awarded for Grants



Recent Changes to Funding Pattern: The legislature has provided funding for this program three times to date - in 2003, 2005, and 2007.

Number of Applicants in 2008 Funding Year: None. While the WSARP program was codified by the legislature as a permanent funding program in 2008, no grant funding was provided at that time. Instead, the legislature requested that DOH and PWB study the history of the WSARP program and potential funding sources and report back the results of this study by January 1, 2009.

Number of Projects Selected in 2008 Funding Year: None – see above.

Total Amount of Awards Offered in 2008 Funding Year: None – see above.

Number of Qualified Applicants not funded in 2008 Funding Year: None – see above.

Total Dollar Amount of Qualified Applications not funded in 2008: None – see above.

Who Is Eligible To Apply?

- ☒ Cities and Towns
- ☒ Counties
- ☒ Water and/or Sewer Districts
- ☐ Port Districts
- ☒ Public Utility Districts
- ☐ Conservation Districts
- ☒ Other Special Purpose Districts
- ☐ Tribes
- ☐ State Agencies
- ☐ Non-Profit Organizations
- ☐ For-Profit Organizations
- ☐ Other

What Categories of Infrastructure Are Eligible?

- ☒ Drinking Water
- ☐ Wastewater
- ☐ Stormwater
- ☐ Solid/Hazardous Waste
- ☐ Irrigation/Agriculture
- ☐ Transportation Infrastructure
- ☐ Buildings and Facilities (Recreation, Art, etc.)
- ☐ Community and Social Service Facilities
- ☐ Biofuel Facilities
- ☐ Other

What Types of Projects Are Eligible?

- ☒ Construction
- ☐ Planning or Design of Individual Construction Projects
- ☐ Multi-Year Planning of Infrastructure Systems or Facilities
- ☐ Programs That Reduce the Need for, or Size of, Future Infrastructure Projects

Eligible Applicants And Projects

☐ Third Party Financing, Financing Guarantees or Interest Write Downs

☐ Other Activities

Eligible Projects: Eligible projects include pre-acquisition, acquisition, connection charges, pre-construction and construction activities.

Special Qualifications Regarding Who Can Apply: Current eligibility is confined to public entities that already manage a municipal Group A water system and that demonstrate a five-year track record of sound drinking water utility management. A Group A water system is a system that regularly serves 15 or more residential connections, or 25 or more people per day for 60 or more days per year.

Special Qualifications Regarding Project Eligibility: The existing grant program guidelines provide examples of eligible and ineligible projects. Ineligible projects include projects primarily intended to serve future growth and projects needed mainly for fire protection.

Recent Changes in Eligible Applicants or Categories of Projects: Eligibility provisions have remained the same in the two rounds of funding.

Policy Goals that are primary considerations in determining awards:

☐ Federal

Please briefly paraphrase primary considerations in determining awards with citation:

☒ State Statute or Regulation (RCW/WAC)

Please briefly paraphrase primary considerations in determining awards with citation:

To assist municipal water systems with acquiring and rehabilitating other water systems having water quality problems or deteriorating infrastructure. The program is intended to maintain safe and reliable drinking water throughout the state. (Substitute Senate Bill 6340, Chapter 214, Laws of 2008 – Water System Acquisition & Rehabilitation Program)

☐ Board Policies

Please briefly paraphrase primary considerations in determining awards with citation:

☐ Agency Strategic Plan

Please briefly paraphrase primary considerations in determining awards with citation:

Potentially Supporting or Conflicting Statewide Policies:

Growth Management Act

☐ Potentially Conflicts

☐ Helps Implement

☒ Both

Comment: The GMA could be considered to both help implement and potentially conflict as described below.

Potentially conflicts - WSARP loan program does not fund projects primarily for future growth. For jurisdictions seeking to build drinking water infrastructure to support growth within a UGA, the WSARP loan program would not be a viable funding source.

Helps implement – The program uses the GMA in two ways: 1) GMA Hearings Board decisions are reviewed to define projects that are primarily for growth and this information is used, in part, to assess whether or not the project should be considered; and 2) Program applicants that are out of compliance with GMA receive a one point deduction on their applications.

Puget Sound Partnership Initiatives

☐ Potentially Conflicts

☐ Helps Implement

☐ Both

Comment: Neutral

Climate Change Initiatives

☐ Potentially Conflicts

☐ Helps Implement

☐ Both

Comment: Neutral

State Economic Development Plan

☐ Potentially Conflicts

☐ Helps Implement

☐ Both

Comment: Neutral

Does your program have a routine process or method for determining the progress made toward meeting the program's identified policy goals as a result of aid awards?

☒ Yes

☐ No

If yes, please briefly describe the method or process used:

Our database tracks and reports information that enables us to determine the progress that has been made on the following:

- Does the project address a compliance problem or microbial risk?
- Will completion of the project eliminate a primary inorganic chemical risk (e.g. arsenic, copper, lead, nitrate)?
- Will completion of the project increase water use efficiency through such means as installation of source and/or service meters, replacement of leaking distribution lines, or other infrastructure improvements?
- The number of failing water systems that have been successfully restructured.

Top Five Evaluation Criteria:

As defined by RCW, WAC, and other (federal rule)

Top five evaluation criteria with points are:

Risk Category 1 – Project eliminates microbial risk (max. 120 points).

Risk Category 2 – Project eliminates a primary inorganic chemical risk (max. 115 points).

Risk Category 3 – Project eliminates other primary chemical risk (max. 105 points).

Risk Category 4 – Project eliminates secondary chemical or sea water intrusion risk (max. 85 points).

Risk Category 5 – Project provides infrastructure replacement or other distribution improvements (max. 65 points).

Note: These categories are mutually exclusive – applicants can only be scored in one category. However, if their project addresses more than one Risk Category, they may receive up to four bonus points, one per each additional category.

Program Awards:

How many of the 2008 funding year awards received 90% or more of the maximum points?

N/A. The program was not funded by the legislature for 2008, thus there were no awards or associated data regarding these questions.

How many of the 2008 funding year awards received 75-89% of the maximum points? N/A

How many of the 2008 funding year awards received 50-74% of the maximum points? N/A

Performance Measures and Program Performance:

From DOH Budget Measures:

- People using public water systems have safe and reliable drinking water.

From DOH Office of Drinking Water:

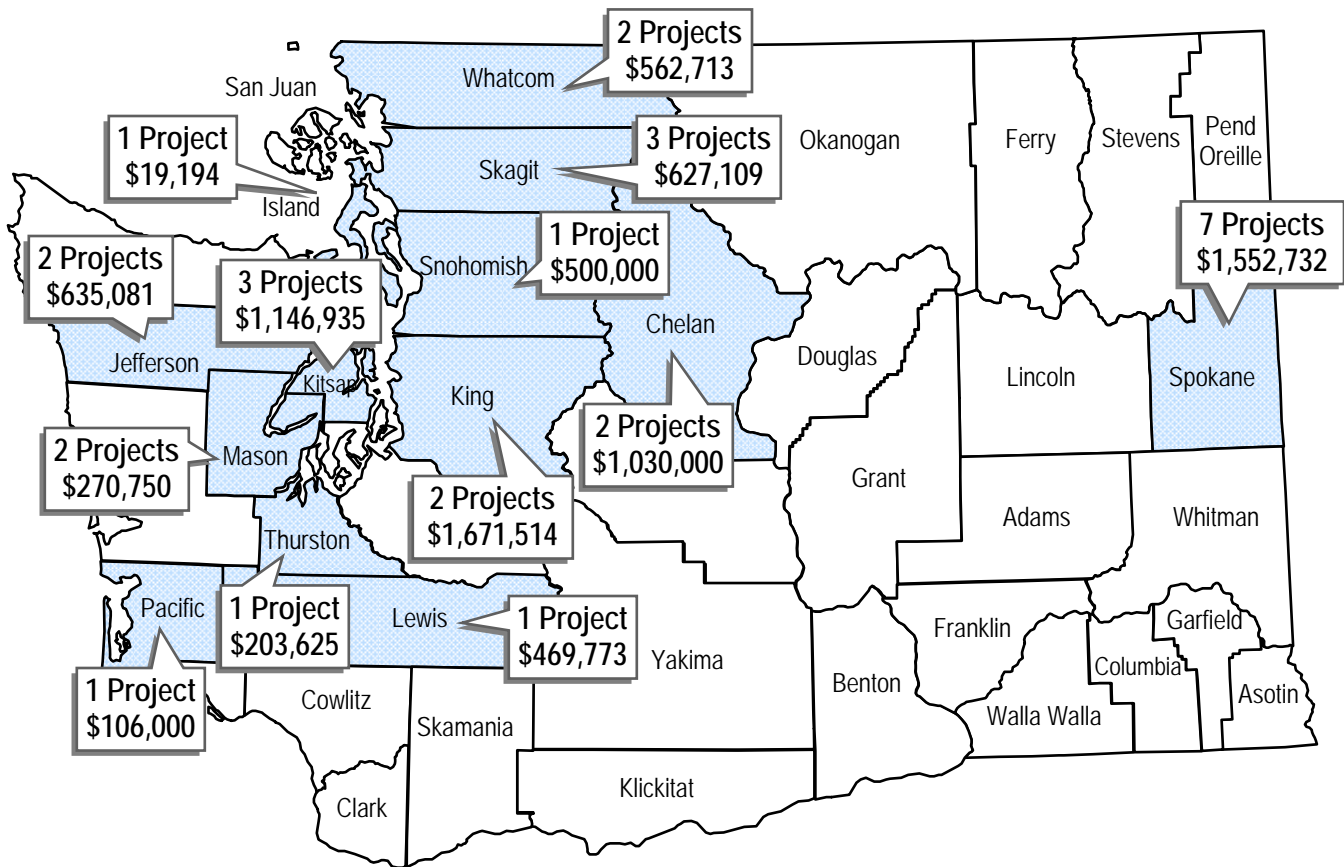
- Does the project address a compliance problem or microbial risk?
- Will completion of the project eliminate a primary inorganic chemical risk (e.g.: arsenic, copper, lead, nitrate)?
- Will completion of the project increase water use efficiency through such means as installation of source and/or service meters, replacement of leaking distribution lines, or other infrastructure improvements?

Note: The above listed measures apply to 2003, 2005, and 2007 funding cycles. Guidelines will be revised pursuant to the studies mandated by the legislature pursuant to ESHB 2765 and SSB 6340.

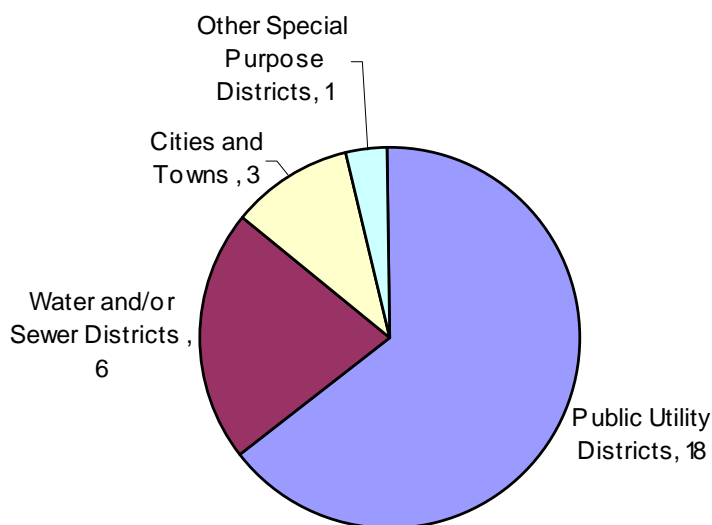
Projected Biennial Budgets for Existing Programs:	2009-11	2011-13	2013-15
New Appropriation for Administration	See note below	See note below	See note below
New Appropriation for Loans/Grants			
Additional Program Funding Needed for the Next Six Years: See note below			
Please List Additional Program Funding Needed by Infrastructure Type:			
	2009-11	2011-13	2013-15
1.	See note below	See note below	See note below
2.			
3.			
<p>Does your program have a method of estimating future needs? Partial system, see below</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Every four years the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), with Washington state's participation, conducts a nationwide needs assessment that identifies water system needs.</p> <p>There are approximately 17,000 water systems in Washington state. Of these, an estimated 15,000 are considered to be small water systems.</p> <p>Information from two legislatively mandated studies will help define the needs of some water systems that have been identified as failing or at risk. The scope does not however address the needs of all systems, only those that are currently failing or at risk.</p> <p>The studies are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Small Water System Study, as required by section 2009 of the Capital Budget ESHB 2765 and due June 30, 2009; and 2) Water System Acquisition and Rehabilitation Grant Program (WSARP) Study, pursuant to SSB 6340, due January 1, 2009, which will potentially address several hundred systems. 			

Water System Acquisition and Rehabilitation Program Grants, 2003-07

Location of Grants by County



Grant Recipients, 1999-2008



Types of Projects Funded, 1999-2008

